

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 NIC-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 COME-00 TRSE-00

CIEP-01 /065 W

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R 040431Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4671

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 1699

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, TW

SUBJECT: RENEWAL OF SAFED AGREEMENT

REF: (A) STATE 71660, B) TAIPEI 0699

FROM AMBASSADOR FOR HABIB

1. RE STATE/AID NEGATIVE RESPONSE (REFTEL (A)) TO EMBASSY'S REQUEST THAT SAFED AGREEMENT BE EXTENDED, WE ARE NOT INTERESTED IN PERPETUATING US SUPPORT FOR ROC BUREAUCRATIC STRUCTURE. WE DO BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT EXTENSION OF AGREEMENT THROUGH LOW-KEY EXCHANGE OF NOTES, WITHOUT ATTRACTING ANY UNWANTED ATTENTION WOULD CAPITALIZE ON SIZEABLE USG RESOURCES INVESTED IN SAFED AND AVOID ADDING TO ROC CONCERN ABOUT US FUTURE MOVES. PROPOSED TAX TREATY AND RENEWAL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT DO NOT HAVE NEARLY AS MUCH IMPACT WITHIN GROC AS SAFED, WHICH IS A SYMBOL OF GENERATION OF COOPERATIVE HUMANITARIAN AND DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS BETWEEN THE US AND THE ROC.

2. EQUALLY OR PERHAPS MORE IMPORTANT IS OUR IMMEDIATE CONCERN THAT IF SAFED AGREEMENT IS TERMINATED, ALTERNATE FUNDING OF AID ACTIVITIES IN ROC WILL BE REQUIRED OR
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THOSE ACTIVITIES ALSO WILL BE TERMINATED. AT PRESENT

SAFED CONTRIBUTES US\$60,504 ANNUALLY TO AID ACTIVITIES. THIS MONEY IS USED TO PAY SALARIES AND BENEFITS OF SIX LOCAL EMPLOYEES; TO PAY SUPPORT COSTS OF AID REGIONAL COMMODITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (PD-31), INCLUDING RENT, TRAVEL, UTILITIES AND FURNISHINGS; AND TO PAY AID'S SHARED ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT CONTRITION TO EMBASSY. AN ADDITIONAL COMPLICATING FACTOR IS THAT THE JOINT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE (JTAC) IS ALSO FUNDED BY SAFED. THE VALUE OF THIS INSTITUTION TO AID FOR THIRD-COUNTRY TRAINING IS WELL KNOWN.

3. FOR THE ABOVE REASONS EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT THE DECISION TO LET THE SAFED AGREEMENT EXPIRE BE RECONSIDERED. WE HAVE NOT NOTIFIED THE GROC OF REFTEL (A).
UNGER

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